

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 15 of 1893.

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 15th April 1893.

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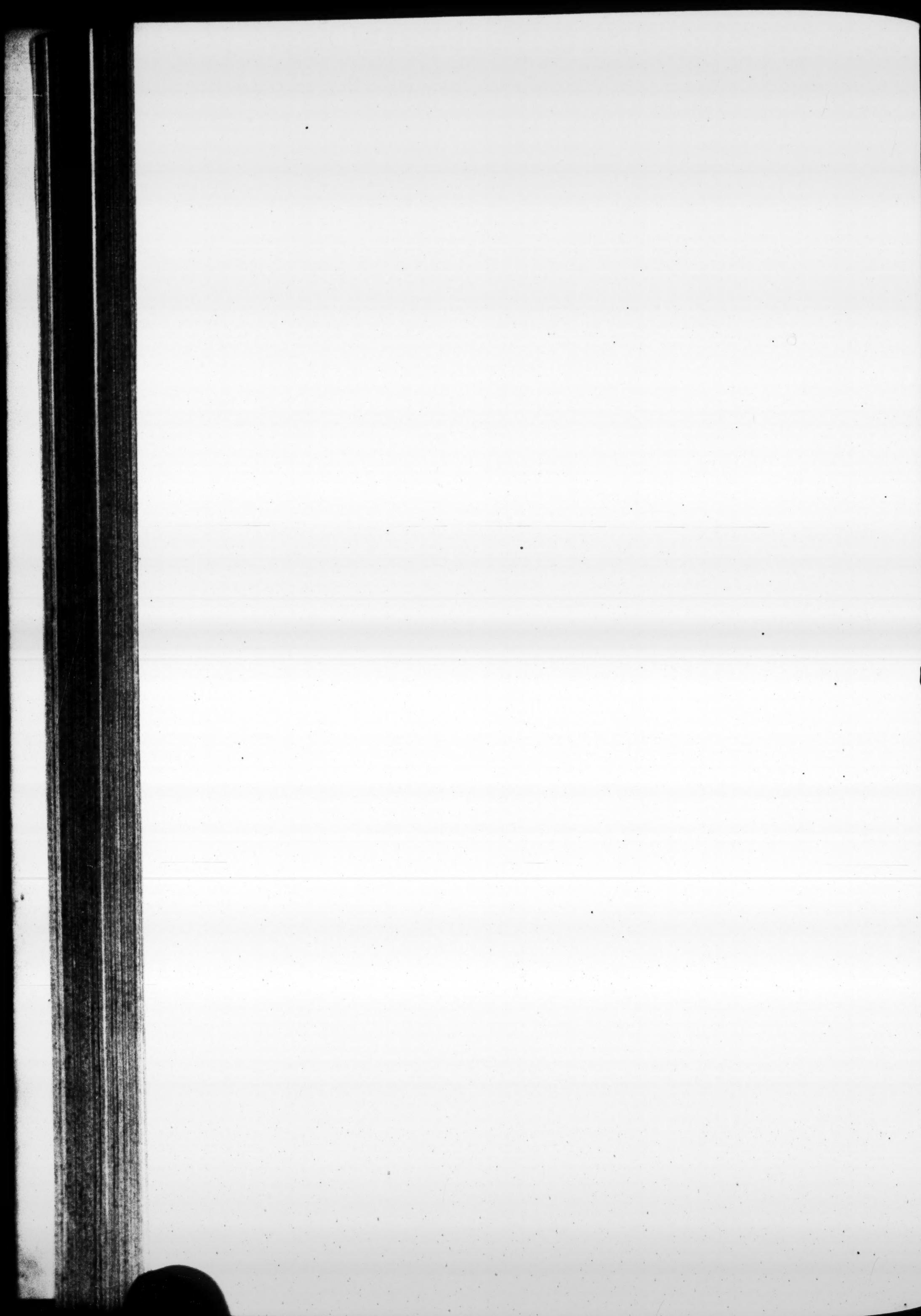
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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined or the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Bankura Darpan"	Bankura	380	
2	"Grámvási"	Ramkristopur, Howrah	1,000	
3	"Kaliyuga"	Calcutta	.....
4	"Kasipur Nivási"	Kasipur, Barisál	300	
5	"Navamihir"	Ghatail, Mymensingh	500	
6	"Sadar-o-Mufassal"	Tahirpur, Rajshahi	650	
7	"Ulubaria Darpan"	Ulubaria	755	
<i>Tri-monthly.</i>				
8	"Hitakari"	Tangail	800	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Bangavási"	Calcutta	20,000	8th April 1893.
10	"Banganivási"	Ditto	8,000	7th ditto.
11	"Burdwán Sanjivání"	Burdwan	320	4th ditto.
12	"Chárvártá"	Sherpur, Mymensingh	300	3rd ditto.
13	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca	5,000	9th ditto.
14	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	1,050	7th ditto.
15	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Boalia, Rajshahi	212	
16	"Hitavádi"	Calcutta	3,000	6th ditto.
17	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Berhampore	.....
18	"Prakriti"	Calcutta	.....	8th ditto.
19	"Pratikár"	Berhampore	611	7th ditto.
20	"Rangpur Dikprakásh"	Kakinia, Rangpur	170	
21	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	800-1,000	5th ditto.
22	"Samáj-o-Sáhitya"	Garibpore, Nadia	1,000	9th ditto.
23	"Samaya"	Calcutta	3,000	7th ditto.
24	"Sanjivání"	Ditto	4,000	8th ditto.
25	"Sansodhíní"	Chittagong	.....
26	"Sáraswat Patra"	Dacca	(300-400)	8th ditto.
27	"Som Prakásh"	Calcutta	800	10th ditto.
28	"Sriwanta Sadagar"	Ditto	.....
29	"Sudhákár"	Ditto	3,600	7th ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
30	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Calcutta	500	6th, 7th, 11th and 13th April 1893.
31	"Bengal Exchange Gazette"	Ditto	.....	29th March, 3rd to 5th and 10th April 1893.
32	"Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká"	Ditto	1,500	9th to 12th April 1893.
33	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Ditto	1,435	10th and 11th ditto.
34	"Samvád Purnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	7th, 8th and 10th to 13th April 1893.
35	"Sulabh Dainik"	Ditto	.....	Ditto ditto ditto

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
36	" Dacca Gazette "	... Dacca	... 500-600	10th April 1893.
HINDI				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
37	" Darjeeling Mission ke Másik Samachár Patrika."	Darjeeling	... 400	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
38	" Aryávarta "	... Dinapore	... 750	5th ditto.
39	" Bihar Bandhu "	... Bankipore	... 500	
40	" Bhárat Mitra "	... Calcutta	... 1,500	30th March 1893.
41	" Champaran Chandrika "	... Bettiah	... 350	
42	" Desí Vyápári "	... Calcutta	... ....
43	" Hindi Bangavási "	... Ditto	... 5,000	10th April 1893.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	" Akhbar-i-Al Punch "	... Bankipore	... 750	27th March and 3rd April 1893.
45	" Anis "	... Patna	... ....
46	" Calcutta Punch "	... Calcutta	... ....
47	" Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide "	... Ditto	... 300	6th April 1893.
48	" General and Gauhariasfi "	... Ditto	... 410	
49	" Mehre Monawar "	... Muzaffarpur	... ....
50	" Reis-ul-Akhbar-i-Murshidabad "	... Murshidabad	... 150	
51	" Setare Hind "	... Arrah	... ....
52	" Shokh "	... Monghyr	... 100	
UR. YA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
53	" Asha "	... Cuttack	... 80	
54	" Echo "	... Ditto	... ....
55	" Pradip "	... Ditto	... ....
56	" Samyabadi "	... Ditto	... ....
57	" Taraka and Subhavártá "	... Ditto	... ....
58	" Utkalprabhá "	... Baripada	... 250	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
59	" Dipaka "	... Cuttack	... ....
60	" Samvad Váhika "	... Balasore	... 225	9th and 16th March 1893.
61	" Uriya and Navasamvád "	... Ditto	... 420	8th and 15th ditto.
62	" Utkal Dípiká "	... Cuttack	... 400	11th and 18th ditto.
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
63	" Paridarshak "	... Sylhet	... 480	For the second fortnight of Chaitra
64	" Silchar "	... Silchar	... 250	1299 B.S.



I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE Prakriti, of the 8th April, sees no necessity for the proposed road from Darjeeling to Lhassa via Sikkim. The proposal to construct this road is a chimerical one, and ought to be abandoned. Yet the Raja of Sikkim was taken to task simply because he threw obstacles in the way of the construction of the road. The natural road from Tibet to British India does not pass through Lhassa and Darjeeling. If any road between the two countries be needed for commercial purposes, the object may be gained by constructing a railway line from Dhankota to Darjeeling, for the purpose of attracting the wool trade of Western Tibet. The natural road from Western Tibet runs in the direction of Langui, the Aran Valley and Dhankota. The railway line in question will be 220 miles long, while the proposed road through Lhassa and Darjeeling will be 343 + 297 miles. Moreover, it will have to be taken through places inhabited by hostile races. It is hoped that Government will abandon the idea of the proposed road.

PRAKRITI,
April 8th, 1893.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

2. The Cháruvártá, of the 3rd April, is glad to see that the authorities have at last perceived the necessity of recruiting the upper police service on the results of a competitive examination to be held in England.

The higher appointments in the Indian Police.

The existing system of reserving that service for the sons and relations of the Anglo-Indian Civil Servants not infrequently leads to the appointment of incompetent men as Assistant Superintendents of Police.

3. The Dacca Prakásh, of the 9th April, gives the following story on the authority of one of its correspondents:—

A few days ago, a gentleman who had just alighted from a carriage in the Mymensingh train was making towards the road leading to the south of the Dacca railway station. Another passenger with a carpet-bag in hand was looking for a ticca gharry. He was suddenly pushed to the ground, and gagged by a man in a blue dress. At this moment some four or five persons from the neighbouring jungle came and dragged him towards it. The gentleman on seeing this fled for his life, and did not see what followed. It is not known whether the victim of the ruffianism is dead or alive.

4. The Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká, of the 10th April, says that, owing to the agitation made by the tea planters of Jalpaiguri, the Chaukidari Act will be enforced in that district, and that either the Manager, the Assistant Manager, or the Head Babu of every garden will constitute by himself a panchayet. If the Manager of a tea garden can be a panchayet, why should not a zamindar be accorded the same privilege? But a zamindar is a native, and a tea garden Manager is a European!

5. The Dainik o-Samáchár Chandriká, of the 11th April, says that the gundas at Burrabazar, in Calcutta, are a constant source of danger and uneasiness to the public. Picked police officers should be placed in charge of Burrabazar, and they should be instructed to keep a sharp eye on the houses in the dark lanes in that part of the town.

CHARUVARTA,
April 3rd, 1893.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 9th, 1893.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 10th, 1893.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 11th, 1893.

The Chaukidari Act in the tea gardens of Jalpaiguri.

Gundas at Burrabazar in Calcutta.

ant Manager, or the Head Babu of every garden will constitute by himself a panchayet. If the Manager of a tea garden can be a panchayet, why should not a zamindar be accorded the same privilege? But a zamindar is a native, and a tea garden Manager is a European!

6. The Cháruvártá, of the 3rd April, expresses gratitude to the Viceroy and the Secretary of State for their favourable solution of the jury question, and says that the people are rejoicing at the recommendations made by the

Jury Commission. The writer is glad to see the good result of agitation in this matter.

7. The same paper draws attention to the various inconveniences, pecuniary and otherwise, which have to be undergone by persons summoned as witnesses to the civil and criminal courts in the mufassal. First, there is no

Hardships of witnesses in law courts.

CHARUVARTA,
April 3rd, 1893.

CHARUVARTA.

waiting accommodation for witnesses in any mufassal court, who have therefore to find their own waiting-places under trees near the court-houses in all states of the weather. Secondly, the presiding officer of the court takes little trouble to see that the witnesses are paid diet-money in every case. Even when the witnesses apply for diet-money, the Munsifs and other officers pay little heed to their applications. Under these circumstances, it frequently happens that witnesses prefer paying fines for non-appearance, than suffering both pecuniary loss and physical hardship, by attending court in response to the summons.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 4th, 1893.

8. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th April, says that the news of the withdrawal of the jury notification has made all Indians glad, and they are blessing Government for that act of favour. The liberality which

Government has shown in the present instance, by revoking its own order, has tended to increase its prestige a hundredfold, and to strengthen, instead of weakening, the loyalty of the people. The government, by a handful of Englishmen, of a vast country like India, with a population of 25 crores, is indeed a unique spectacle in the world. And the English have been able to establish their dominion in the hearts of the people, simply because one of the objects of their rule in India has been to increase the happiness and prosperity of their subjects. It is therefore likely that their rule in India will be permanent. And it will be for Government to decide whether those who would advise it to alter the policy which has achieved such beneficial results are its friends or enemies. It is a matter of rejoicing to the writer that, in the present instance, Government has paid no heed to the advice of those men.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

9. The same paper again refers to the convicting tendency of the Deputy Magistrates, and makes the following remarks:—

Convictions by Deputy Magis- Indiscriminate convictions by Deputy Magis-
trates. trates have created quite a panic in the country, and no one knows when his turn to be sent to jail may come. The belief that Deputy Magistrates pass sentences of imprisonment in a most light-hearted way, without any consideration of the evidence adduced, makes people live in a state of terror and suspense. Do Deputy Babus know how many people they have brutalised by their inconsiderate sentences of imprisonment? Two cases are here given in support of the above statement, in the first of which a man was sentenced to two weeks' imprisonment, with hard labour, simply because he threatened to pull another by the ear, and in the second case an F.A. student was sentenced to a week's imprisonment, with hard labour, for having used a service stamp in an application for a post which he had addressed to the head of an office.

SAHACHAR,
April 5th, 1893.

10. The *Sahachar*, of the 5th April, has the following on the report of the Jury Commission:—

The Jury Commission.

The country is really grateful to the members of the Jury Commission. There was a time when the verdicts of Indian jurors were final, like those of English jurors, and it was Sir Fitz-James Stephen who took away this finality by empowering Judges to make references to the High Court in cases of disagreement between them and the jury. The writer is personally in favour of the finality of the jury's verdict, but, then, considering all things, the above arrangement cannot be said to have been improper. The Commission, too, is of the same opinion. The alterations proposed by it in section 307 of the Code of Criminal Procedure are, however, not desirable. The Commission is of opinion that the offences which were, for the first time, made triable by jury under the notification of the 20th October last, ought to be tried with the aid of assessors. The ground on which this opinion is based is ludicrous. It is that Mussulman jurors will not be able to correctly decide questions relating to Hindu marriages, and that Hindu jurors will show equal incapacity in deciding questions relating to Muhammadan marriages. If this reasoning be correct, then a Chamar jury ought to try questions relating to the marriage of a Chamar. But is it possible to procure jurymen or assessors of that caste? Again, if the natives themselves be unable to judge correctly of the customs prevailing among their countrymen how can it be expected that a European Judge will understand their customs

better? The Commission must, therefore, be admitted to have committed an error of judgment here. But, then, the people have got what they were deprived of. In the opinion of the writer, however, marriage cases ought to be tried by jury. The Hindu members of the Commission have expressed the opinion that the time has come for extending jury trial to all advanced districts, and the writer endorses this opinion. There are good many men of education and ability in the districts of Jessor, Faridpur, Mymensingh, Rajshahi, Chittagong, &c., and there is no reason why the people of these districts should not have jury trial. If the people of the district of Patna can act as jurors, there is no reason why the people of Bhagalpur cannot do the same. As regards the jury agitation, Government brought it about by its own action, and cannot feel surprised at its vehemence. It was Lord Lansdowne's Government which first raised the question regarding the merits of jury trial as a means of repressing crime. Nevertheless, if the Viceroy had acted on his own judgment, the agitation would not have assumed such proportions, and the notification would have been withdrawn in time. But His Excellency cannot be wholly exempted from responsibility in the matter. As the Governor-General of India, he would have done well, if he had withdrawn the notification directly he came to know of the dissatisfaction which it had caused. In the present matter, Sir Charles Elliott has been able to win the regards of the people to a considerable extent. His Honour has shown that if he commits an error, he has also the courage to rectify it, and what can be higher certificate than this for a ruler? Sir Charles has accordingly risen in the opinion of the people, who are sorry for his approaching departure. Everybody wishes that he may return to this country after the expiry of his leave.

11. The *Hitavádi*, of the 6th April, refers to the withdrawal of the jury notification of the Lieutenant-Governor, and makes the following remarks:—

It is no small credit to the Lieutenant-Governor that he has admitted his error before the downtrodden people of India. The writer can assure His Honour that this act on his part has in no way taken away from the prestige of the British Raj. The irresistible power of the English, and the utter helplessness of the people of India before it, are well known facts. By confessing their error, the English have increased a hundredfold the people's respect for, and confidence in, their rule.

12. The *Banganivási*, of the 7th April, refers to the case instituted in Berhampore by the syce of the Divisional Commissioner against a chaukidar, in which the defendant was sentenced to a fortnight's imprisonment. The Deputy Babu who tried the case did not consider it necessary even to issue a summons or warrant against the chaukidar, but forthwith passed sentence upon him, wretch that he was to venture to have an altercation with the syce of the Commissioner Saheb himself! Certainly great credit is due to the Deputy for the manner in which he has disposed of this case!

13. The same paper says that the Lieutenant-Governor has made everybody happy by the withdrawal of the jury notification. The report of the Jury Commission, too, has given great satisfaction to the people. It now remains to see whether it would be advisable to extend the jury system. The Commission were, it is true, divided on this point, but the public are unanimously of opinion that an extension of the system is desirable, both as regards local jurisdiction and classes of offences. It is hoped Government will not shelve the question.

Another matter deserves attention, and that is that the jurors should be put to no inconvenience or unnecessary loss of time or money. Unless greater attention is paid to these points, no respectable men will be willing to serve as jurors.

14. The *Sudhákar*, of the 7th April, says that the Lieutenant-Governor has earned the thanks of the people by withdrawing the jury notification, which His Honour had issued without due consideration.

It is true the re-introduction of the jury system has given general satisfaction, but unless the method of choosing jurors is improved, the system will not be free from the defects that now disfigure it. It is undeniable that low-class people

HITAVADI,
April 6th, 1893.

BANGANIVASI,
April 7th, 1893.

BANGAVASI.

SUDHAKAR,
April 7th, 1893.

specially pleaders and mukhtears without practice, who are generally selected as jurors, take bribes and return interested verdicts.

BANGAVASI,
April 8th, 1893.

15. Referring to the case of Empress *versus* Chhabu Sekh, which was committed to the Mymensingh Sessions by the Deputy Magistrate, Babu Kalinath Basu, and in which the accused was acquitted by the Sessions Judge, the

Bangavasi, of the 8th April, says that the case was investigated by a jamadar, who, though disbelieving the evidence, yet sent up the accused for trial. The case then came up before Babu Kalinath for disposal. A petition was submitted to the Deputy Magistrate by the accused on the day he was taking down the evidence of the complainant's wife and mother, praying that the jamadar's diary might be sent for, as the evidence now given by the witnesses materially differed from that given before the police. The Deputy Magistrate ordered the petition to be filed with the record of the case. It was, however, noticed by the Sessions Judge that, after the above order, the words, "and the diary be sent for" had been inserted in different ink. After concluding the examination of the witnesses for the prosecution, the Deputy Magistrate called for the witnesses for the defence, and ordered a petition, submitted again by the accused for cross-examination of the former witnesses, to be filed with the record. On the 31st December last the Deputy Magistrate committed the accused to the sessions.

In passing judgment in this case, the Sessions Judge made the following remarks on the manner in which the Deputy Magistrate had tried it :—

- (1) The Deputy Magistrate has committed this case to the Sessions, "with the evident object of clearing his file on the last day of the year, thus saving him from the necessity of offering explanations and from possible censure."
- (2) "The enquiry is most discreditable, showing, as it does, an entire want of attention and care on his (the Deputy's) part."
- (3) "Judicial work of any importance should not be entrusted to an officer, who has of late shown himself as entirely inapt. Decision after decision by him has been set aside by this court in appeal, and the High Court on revision, and case after case has been remanded for further evidence, or sent back for fresh trial, and it is clear that this Magistrate should not be allowed to exercise judicial functions any longer, except in the most petty matters."

The writer will be sorry to see the Deputy Magistrate dismissed. It is probable that if he is in the good books of his superior Magistrate no harm will befall him. Nay, he may even go on getting promotions in the service, if he can succeed in winning the favour of the Lieutenant-Governor. But will the Deputy Babu please say, if it is good for him to remain in an office in which he has caused such scandal, and has done incalculable mischief to thousands of his countrymen? And is it proper that a human being, nay, a gentleman, should silently submit to all this ignominy?

SANJIVANI,
April 8th, 1893.

16. The Sanjivani, of the 8th April, says that from April to December of 1892 there were instituted altogether 54 cases of kidnapping, &c., by colly-arkatis.

of, with the result that 44 *arkatis* have been convicted and punished, and 44 acquitted. The Lieutenant-Governor has said that, in proportion as the number of such kidnapping cases has increased, the number of acquittals, too, has increased. That the number of acquittals would increase, was known from the day on which the Lieutenant-Governor rebuked some judicial officers of Chota Nagpur and the Sonthal Parganas for having punished some *arkatis*.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 11th, 1893.

Distraint of crops by zamindars
for arrears of rent.

17. The Dainik-o-Samachár Chandriká, of the 11th April, has the following :—

For a long time past the Zamindars have enjoyed the right of distraining the crops of their raiyats for arrears of rent. This provision dates as far back as 1793, being found in Regulations 18 of 1793 and 45 of 1795, and was adopted in Act X of 1859, and

subsequently in Act VIII of 1869, whence it has been transferred to the Bengal Tenancy Act of 1885, but in such a modified form, as to completely alter its scope, efficacy, and advantages. Before the passing of the Tenancy Act of 1885, zamindars could distrain the crops of defaulting raiyats without any application to a law court. But at present they can do so only after such application, and after they have established their claim by the production of documentary evidence. When this change was made in the provisions relating to distraint, it was contended by Raja Peary Mohun Mukharji that this was a virtual repeal of section 68 of Act X of 1869, inasmuch as the new process of distraint, involving, as it did, the establishment of the zamindar's claim before a law court, was nothing less than distraint in virtue of a decree in a regular rent suit. In reply to this, Sir Steuart Bayley stated that the right conferred upon the zamindars by section 68 of Act X of 1869 was found to have been abused in many cases, and, hence, in the Tenancy Act, safeguards were provided against such abuse. But, as a matter of fact, the new provision leaves as much room for oppression as the old one. A landlord can now, as before, sue a defaulting raiyat for arrears of rent, and after three or four such suits eject him from his holding. There are very few raiyats who can pay their rents regularly.

If this new provision is not advantageous to the zamindars, it is not also advantageous to the raiyats. Formerly, within 10 to 15 days of the distraint, the defaulting raiyat used to pay the amount of arrear, and he had not to pay the cost of distraint. But under the new provision a defaulting raiyat must pay the arrear with costs of distraint within 3 days of the service of a notice of demand by the distraining officer. Thus, the man who could not pay his arrear in 3 months, must pay that arrear with cost in 3 days. This provision has, thus, proved injurious to the raiyats, instead of doing them any good.

(c)—*Jails.*

The resolution on the Jail Committee's Report.

18. The *Samay*, of the 7th April, thus criticises the Resolution of the Government of India on the report of the Jail Committee:—

SAMAY,
April 7th, 1893.

- (1) In Indian jails all classes of offenders, no matter what the nature of the offences committed by them may be, are accorded the same treatment. This is hardly proper. A man occupying a respectable station in life, who has committed an offence in a moment of weakness, and who is not likely to repeat it, ought not to be treated in jail in the same way as a hardened thief or dacoit. It is, however, useless for a conquered people to expect from an alien Government any difference of treatment in this respect. But the request that the hardened criminals should be confined in separate jails, so as to prevent them from associating with those in the incipient stages of criminality, is certainly not an improper one, and the writer is surprised that neither the Jail Committee nor the Government of India have anything to say on the subject.
- (2) The Government of India is resolved to abolish the system of imparting education to adult offenders. The Government of the North-Western Provinces, however, proposed that such of the adult offenders as were willing to receive instruction should be kept in Central Jails, and receive instruction there. This proposal, the writer is sorry to say, has not been accepted by the Government of India. It would have been well if Government had accepted it.
- (3) The proposal made in the Resolution, to provide a uniform system of punishment for jail offences throughout India, is certainly very proper. But there is no reference in the Resolution as to which of the jail offences should be tried by Magistrates and which by Jail Superintendents, and rules should have been passed, restricting the powers of the latter in this respect. The Committee's proposal to subject jails to non-official supervision, as a remedy for oppressions by Jail Superintendents, is

certainly very proper, and Government will, it is hoped, accept it.

- (4) The writer is glad that, accepting the suggestion of the Jail Committee, Government has consented to abolish the practice of giving insufficient diet to short-term prisoners.
- (5) The part of the Resolution dealing with the subjects of jail labour and manufactures contains clear proof of the good sense of Government.

(d)—*Education.*

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
April 4th, 1893.

19. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th April, A technical school at Burdwan. has the following:—

A technical school will be shortly opened at Burdwan, and boys there will be taught the work of the carpenter, the blacksmith, the tailor, &c. Technical schools have, no doubt, become necessary in the country, but the boys in these schools should be given such a training, as may enable them to manufacture articles of daily use, which are now imported from Europe. If this is done, it may go a great way towards removing the poverty from which the people now suffer. On the other hand, no good can result from training sons of respectable classes in the work of mechanics, and thereby enabling them to rob the latter of their daily bread. The authorities of the proposed school should bear this in mind, and act accordingly.

SUDHAKAR,
April 7th, 1893.

The Daulatpur Entrance School
in the Khulna district.

Daulatpur Entrance School, which is supported by the Mohsin Fund, and the transfer of the aid to the Khulna Zillah School. The expenditure from the

Mohsin Fund on the Daulatpur School does little good to the Muhammadan community of Daulatpur and adjoining villages, as the Khulna Zillah School is not very distant, and there is a high school just on the opposite side of the river which runs by Daulatpur.

SANJIVANI,
April 8th, 1893.

21. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th April, says that, at the last third-yearly examination of candidates at the Campbell Medical School, Dr. Mackenzie, the Superintendent of the School, refused to pass 2 female and 15 male

students in Surgery, as, in his opinion, they failed to satisfy the condition laid down by Government on the 31st August 1889, that—"The student will be expected to answer sufficiently well to gain half marks in each subject, and in the practical part of each subject." According to Dr. Mackenzie's interpretation of the rule, a candidate is required to gain half marks in each part (*i.e.* theoretical and practical) of a subject. This, however, is not the correct interpretation of the rule, the correct interpretation being that a candidate, in order to pass, must secure half marks in the practical part, and half marks in the aggregate in each subject. The unsuccessful candidates pointed this out in a memorial which they made to Dr. Mackenzie, and prayed that the rule should be correctly construed, and they might be passed. But their prayer was rejected. They then submitted a memorial to the Director of Public Instruction, and received from him the following reply:—"The petitioners are informed that their representation cannot be entertained. The undersigned takes the same view of the case as that taken by the Superintendent. A complete knowledge of all the branches of the course should be shown before a diploma can be issued which will qualify a person to carry on business as a medical practitioner." Nothing but his desire to maintain Dr. Mackenzie's prestige could have led Dr. Martin to give such a reply to the petitioners. The writer is sure that the interpretation put upon the rule by the petitioners is its only correct interpretation. Even in the L.M.S. and M.B. examinations of the Calcutta University, a candidate, in order to pass, is required to obtain not less than half marks in the practical part of a subject only and not less than 50 per cent. in the aggregate. And is it to be supposed that, in the presumably lower examinations of the Campbell School, a higher standard of merit will be required of the candidates? The writer questions the right of either Dr. Martin or Dr. Mackenzie to introduce a harder test in the Campbell School examinations than was intended by Government. Dr. Martin says that—"A complete knowledge of all the branches

of the course should be shown before a diploma could be issued." But should no minimum limit be fixed, as regards the proficiency to be shown by the candidates? Will Dr. Martin agree with Examiners who may refuse to pass a candidate unless the latter obtains the full marks in each subject? So far as the writer can see, the petitioners, though entitled to a pass, have been plucked only through the caprice of the authorities. And has Dr. Martin or Dr. Mackenzie taken into consideration the mental agony which the unfortunate candidates have had to undergo, owing to this caprice? They have been told by the authorities to appear at the examination which will be held three months later, when they may be passed. But how can they rely on the result of a future examination when, though securing very high marks in the recent examination, they have been deemed unfit to pass? Besides, it will be no small hardship for these persons, specially the female students, coming as they all do from the mufassal, to continue their stay in Calcutta for a futher period of three months.

The candidates have submitted a fresh memorial to the Director of Public Instruction, and it is to be hoped that Dr. Martin and Dr. Mackenzie will yet take pity upon these poor students, and leaving aside their own *zid*, see their way to doing them justice. The female students have sought the assistance of Mr. Marriott, Secretary of the Bengal branch of Lady Dufferin's Fund, to speak for them to the Director of Public Instruction. The Lieutenant-Governor, too, who is the head of the Bengal branch of the Fund, ought to help the female students in their present difficulty.

22. The same paper says that, during his late visit to Berhampore,

Mr. Westmacott at the Berham-
pore College. Mr. Westmacott was asked by the authorities of the local college to distribute the prizes to the successful students of the institution. He presided on the

occasion of the prize-distribution, but did not allow the annual report to be read or distribute the prizes himself, the work of distribution being done by a teacher. In the speech he made he said that the country now possessed a large number of educated natives, and Government would no longer waste its money on high education, when it had so many other duties to perform (one of these duties being to send money to the wives of civilians in England.—*Editor*). He also said that the Bengalis, though possessed of a keen intelligence, were devoid of physical or moral strength. The speech over, as soon as the boys proceeded to make a display of their physical strength by gymnastic exercises, Mr. Westmacott left the place.

23. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 9th April, refers to Dr. Martin's proposal

The new inspection circles. relating to the redistribution of the inspection circles, and makes the following remarks:—

If the new proposal is sanctioned, the Inspector of the Presidency Circle will have to inspect schools situated in places so distant from one another as Murshidabad, Orissa, Chittagong, and Tippera. The Inspector of the Rajshahi Circle will have to leap over the limits of the Rajshahi and the Presidency Districts, and to inspect schools in the Burdwan division. Tippera is only 25 miles distant from Dacca, and yet it will be inspected not by the Inspector of the Dacca, but by the Inspector of the Presidency, Circle, who lives at a distance of 270 miles from the place! Again, Burdwan, which is so near Calcutta, will be inspected not by the Inspector of the Presidency Circle, but by the Inspector of Rajshahi, coming from either Dacca or Darjeeling. The writer is unable to see the principle underlying this strange distribution of the inspection circles. As it is the duty of the Inspectors to inspect schools, the inspection circles should be so distributed as to facilitate that work. If it be found necessary to reduce the number of Inspectors, that object may be gained by merging contiguous inspection circles into one circle. The writer would not have been so much sorry if the Rajshahi Circle had been amalgamated with the Dacca Circle and the Burdwan Circle with the Presidency Circle, nay, even if the district of Chittagong had been detached from the Chittagong Circle and brought within the jurisdiction of the Presidency Circle. But to detach Tippera and Noakhali from Dacca, and to make them parts of the Presidency Circle, is an extremely unwise measure. Similarly, to merge the Burdwan into the Dacca Circle is an act that cannot be called wise. The proposed arrangement will, if sanctioned, increase the cost of inspection work and much of the time of the Inspectors will be wasted in making visits to distant places. Again, it is very necessary that the inspecting officers should know the languages

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ordinarily spoken by the teachers and the students of the schools which they inspect. Under the existing arrangements, the difficulty caused by the European Inspector's ignorance of the vernaculars of the country is to a great extent removed by his native subordinates, who come from places lying within his inspection circle. But if the proposed arrangement is sanctioned, this difficulty will be increased, for the clerks in the office of the Presidency Inspector will then have to master, on the one hand, the half-Burmese dialect of Chittagong, and the unintelligible Uriya jargon, on the other. Government will probably avoid the difficulty by requiring all correspondence with the Inspectors to be conducted in English. If this happens, the teachers and the boys of the village schools will be put to very great difficulty, and many of the former will have to sever their connection with the work of education.

Of the 3 Chief Inspectors who will be appointed under Dr. Martin's proposal, 2 will be Englishmen and 1 a Bengali. Now, the appointment of Europeans as Inspectors of Schools causes great inconvenience. Nor can any political purpose be served by such appointment, which is, moreover, opposed to the order of the Secretary of State, requiring a larger employment of natives in the Education Department. Under the proposed arrangement, either Babu Radhika Prasanna Mukerjea or Babu Dinanath Sen will lose his present post, and be made a District Inspector. And his duties will be those of a Deputy Inspector under the existing arrangement, and so his prestige in the service will suffer. For the above reasons, the writer cannot by any means approve of Dr. Martin's proposal.

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The Government *tol* grant and It has now offered to give to the Samaj, in lieu of that grant, four scholarships, worth about

Rs. 475. The Samaj has refused to accept this offer, for the acceptance thereof will subject it to the operation of various rules and regulations recently made by Government. The social influence of the Pandit class will suffer if they cannot protect their independence in this way.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

SANJIVANI,
April 8th, 1893.

25. A correspondent of the *Sanjivani*, of the 8th April, makes the following remarks regarding the Comilla Municipality.—

(1) At the first election of Commissioners the rate-payers of the municipality evinced great enthusiasm and public spirit. At the second election very little of this enthusiasm and public spirit was left, and there was a very poor attendance, both of voters and spectators, at the polling-stations. At the third election, out of a total of 8,036 voters, only 165 were present at the polling-stations.

(2) The elected Commissioners are, mostly, incompetent men, and are sadly lacking in public spirit. The Chairman of the Municipality is an old European of 80 years, who lives for the greater portion of the year in the mufassal, in discharge of his duties as Manager of Nawab Abdul Gunny's estates. The whole work of the municipality is, in consequence, conducted by the Vice-Chairman, who is a "low-paid ministerial officer" under Government, with a coterie of 5 or 6 Commissioners, of no superior rank and position in society.

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26. A correspondent of the *Dacca Prakash*, of the 9th April, says that Chatmohar is an important place in the Pabna district. It has a large and wealthy population, and is a flourishing trade centre. Its sanitary condition is, however, deplorable. The roads are bad and full of filth. There ought to be a municipality here. The inhabitants of the place have applied to Government for the purpose, and it is hoped that their wishes will be granted.

SULABH DAINIK,
April 11th, 1893.

27. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 11th April, says that, considering how Gas-lamps in Peardon Square, Beadon Square in the northern quarter of Calcutta, surrounded as it is by brothels, is used by *badmashes* as a favourite haunt in the night, it is not well that gas-lamps in the garden should be extinguished just after 9 P.M.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

28. A correspondent of the *Samay*, of the 7th April, complains of the

The train service between Assensole and Burdwan on the East Indian Railway line. inconvenience which is caused to the public by the late arrival in Burdwan of the pick-up train from Assensole. The train is due at Burdwan between 7-30 and 8 A.M., but it sometimes arrives there so late as 9-30 A.M. The pick-up train is intended for passengers, and yet goods waggons and cattle-vans are sometimes attached to it. And on days when this is the case, the passengers find the greatest difficulty in getting into the waggons, which have no footboards outside and no seats inside. The passenger traffic between Assensole and Burdwan is so large, that even three carriages are not sufficient to carry it. The authorities should look to the matter.

29. The *Banganivási*, of the 7th April, invites the attention of the Calcutta

Frequent accidents on the tram- way lines in Calcutta. police to the frequent accidents, leading to fatal consequences, which have of late occurred on the tramway lines in Calcutta. The attention of the tramway authorities, too, is invited to the matter.

30. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 12th April, makes the following suggestions for the improvement of the The Calcutta tramways. Calcutta tramways:—

- (1) The Manager should guard against accidents, by directing that the cars should be completely stopped whenever a passenger wishes to get in or to alight.
- (2) The cars should not be so overcrowded as they are now at the hour of attendance at offices.
- (3) The Manager should take steps to prevent blocks on the tramway lines.
- (4) Separate benches should be provided, as in Bambay, for smokers and for women.
- (5) Passengers should be taken over short distances for a fare of 2 pice.
- (6) Some new stations should be opened. Arrangements should also be made for the running of light cars through Nimbolla Street.
- (7) Tram cars should run up to 11 o'clock at night, as in Bombay.

(h)—*General.*

31. The *Bhárat Mitra*, of the 30th March, disapproves of the action of

Mr. Omond's appointment to the Calcutta Small Cause Court. the Lieutenant-Governor in appointing Mr. Ormond to the 2nd Judgeship of the Calcutta Small Cause Court.

Mr. Williams, Magistrate of Burdwan.

32. The *Burdwán Sanjívaní*, of the 4th April, has the following on Mr. Williams, Magistrate of Burdwan:—

There can be no doubt that all people in the district of Burdwan will be deeply sorry to learn that Mr. Williams, Magistrate, will in a few days go away on transfer. He possesses many good qualities, and is equally able as a judicial and an administrative officer. In his mufussal tours he treats village people with kindness and consideration, patiently hears their complaints, and tries to remove them. He has done his best to remove the distress of the people in many places within the district of Burdwan, and granted *takávi* loans to many of them. He has ordered the excavation of tanks in many places, and intended to undertake the repair of the old badshahi road passing through Rayna, and would have carried out his wish if he had been permitted to remain in the district for some time longer. The people of Burdwan are certainly unfortunate in losing him. The writer hopes that he will again come to Burdwan as Divisional Commissioner and make the people happy.

33. The *Samay*, of the 7th April, has the following on the budget:—

The budget. In the recent budget prepared by the Government of India the portion dealing with expenditure is not sufficiently lucid. It looks as if the intention of Government, in thus dealing with the accounts, is not to let the outside

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BANGANIVÁSI,
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CHANDRIKA,
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Mar. 30th, 1893.

BURDWÁN SANJÍVANI,
4th April 1893.

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public know everything about them. For, otherwise, why should not the budget show whether the expenditure on education was being increased or decreased, or contain any explanation of the permanent increase of the military expenditure? The increase of the incomes of the Stamp and Excise Departments, as shown in the budget, is not a good sign. Litigation is ruining the people, and yet they will not desist from it. The increase of the stamp revenue is the same thing as the increase of the poverty of the country, while the increase of the excise revenue shows which way the habits of the people are tending.

BANGANIVASI,
April 7th, 1893.

The case of Babu Devendra Nath Mitra, an assistant in the Bengal Secretariat.

34. The *Banganivási*, of the 7th April, has the following:—

The generality of Bengalis seem to have incurred the gravest displeasure of the authorities, and the reason is that they are unequalled in the art of imitating the English. The Bengalis have taken to English education and English civilization, and pass all English examinations with facility. And though, for want of capital they cannot rival the English in trade, yet they are thoroughly initiated in the secrets of that trade. They also hold meetings, make speeches, criticise the actions of Government, write in newspapers, and submit petitions to Parliament. They no longer make lowly obeisance to every Englishman they come across or consider it the only object, of their lives to lick the feet of Englishmen. Can it be wondered, then, that they have incurred the displeasure of the Anglo-Indians?

The present Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is extremely afraid of the Babus. His exasperation knows no bounds when any of his secret acts come to light, and he loses all temper with his Bengali clerks. A correspondent of the *Indian Daily News* lately insinuated that one Devendra Nath Mitra, clerk in the Bengal Secretariat, was in the habit of giving official information to the *Indian Mirror* and the *Hindoo Patriot*. And it is rumoured that, relying on this insinuation, Sir Charles Elliott has dismissed Babu Devendra Nath from service, although he was a Government servant of 20 years' standing. The *Indian Mirror* and the *Hindoo Patriot*, however, assure the public that Babu Devendra Nath never supplied them with any official information. What grounds then had Sir Charles Elliott to accept as true the insinuation of an unknown correspondent, and reject as unfounded the protests of two such respectable papers as the *Indian Mirror* and the *Hindoo Patriot*?

Why has the Lieutenant-Governor grown so suspicious, and why is he making such strict rules to prevent the public from knowing anything about his doings? Does Sir Charles do, or encourage any wrong actions, that he is so afraid of publicity? Is his office given to see actions which His Honour would be ashamed to let the public see?

The writer cannot approve of the feeling of hostility which exists between native and Eurasian clerks in Government offices. It is the duty of His Honour to see that the clerks under him work harmoniously, and on friendly terms with one another.

The writer would further ask, why in the present case the Lieutenant-Governor came to suspect a clerk, when it is a well-known fact that a particular newspaper claims special intimacy with Mr. Risley. Could not Mr. Risley have supplied the information?

BANGANIVASI.

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35. The same paper says that Hindus, Mussulmans, and Christians will Church disestablishment in all unanimously admit that it is contrary to justice India. and reason to maintain a Christian clergy in India at the cost of the Indian tax-payers. It behoves, therefore, the people of this country to agitate at this opportune moment, when the question of church disestablishment is occupying the attention of the British Parliament, for the removal of the injustice involved in the maintenance of a State Church in India.

36. The *Banganivási*, of the 8th April, says that the military expenditure Government's military expenditure of Government has reached a ruinous limit. But although the State is being crushed under the burden of this enormous expenditure, the authorities are still anxious to increase the pay and encourage the luxurious habits of the European soldiery. The Viceroy holds out the hope that in two years more there will be perfect peace on the frontiers, and Government will then be enabled to curtail its army charges. But the difficulties which Government has created for itself on the

frontiers point to a quite different result. The writer, therefore, fails to be reassured by the prospect held out by His Excellency. Within the next two years the Viceroyalty of India will pass into other hands, and who knows that the new Viceroy will not follow a frontier policy different from that now indicated by Lord Lansdowne?

37. The same paper says that it has arrived at the following three main conclusions from the speeches made in the Viceroy's Council in connection with the Financial Statement:

The discussion on the Financial Statement.

They are—(1) that it is extremely probable that a gold currency and gold standard will be introduced in this country; (2) that it is extremely probable that a fresh tax will be imposed within the current year; and (3) that both these measures are likely to be adopted. The imposition of a new tax is almost certain. If, however, before the setting in of the next rainy season Lord Herschell's Committee can arrive at some other satisfactory solution of the exchange difficulty, poor India may be spared either the imposition of a fresh tax, or the introduction of a gold currency. But there is little hope that the Committee will be able to do so.

The writer, though uneasy at the prospect of a new tax, yet fully sympathises with the Government in its present financial embarrassments and asks it to be prepared to reduce all its unnecessary expenditure. It has just lost an opportunity of reducing one item of such expenditure, by not stopping the Simla exodus for the present year. Mere cries of despair, while wasteful expenditure is allowed to go on unchecked, will not remove the present financial difficulty.

38. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th April, says that, following the Lieutenant-Governor's example, Babu Jnanendra Nath Pal,

The Deputy Collector in charge of *ganja* in Naogaon.

Deputy Collector in charge of *ganja* revenue in the Naogaon subdivision of the Rajshahi district, is dwelling upon the virtues of *ganja*. But he should remember that—paid servant of the Government, and seeker after its favour as he is—nobody will believe what he says in this connection. The writer fails to understand why this worthy Deputy should thus waste his energies in merely preaching the virtues of *ganja*, when he can give a practical proof of those virtues by himself smoking the drug in his official capacity.

39. The same paper says that there is every probability of a new tax being imposed upon the country in the current year.

A new tax.

There is little chance of the import duty being reimposed, though some people are inclined to believe that, if fresh taxation is necessary, it is this duty that will be revived. But they forget that a revival of this duty would imperil the position of the Ministry in England. The writer thinks it probable that the rate of the income-tax will be increased.

40. The same paper says that, as semi-official newspapers, the *Englishman* and the *Pioneer* were so long supplied with official

The *Indian Daily News* as an official newspaper.

information before all other papers, and their columns were therefore always open to the defence and justification of all actions of Government and its officers. But it is said that, henceforth the *Indian Daily News* will be completely an official newspaper, and though placed under a nominal editor, will be virtually conducted by a high officer under the Government of India. The editor will have no power to publish anything without his consent, and the paper will have for its contributors most of the officers in Indian and Bengal Secretariats. The review of the Financial Statement which appeared in this paper corroborate this rumour.

But have the officials who will write in the paper obtained the necessary permission of the Government of India? And will their salaries be deducted by the amount of the income which they may derive from writing in the paper? It is not just that these officials should be paid their full salaries while they devote their energies and time, which ought to be devoted to the service of the tax-payers, to writing in the *Indian Daily News*. The matter should be brought to the notice of Parliament.

41. The same paper publishes a letter from Babu Brajendra Nath Chatterji,

The Jundiadaha enquiry. in which he refers to the report of the Deputy Magistrate of Kushtia regarding the Jundiadaha enquiry. According to Babu Brajendra Nath, the enquiry lasted for only one hour,

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and the Deputy Magistrate could examine only such men as were most probably brought up by the amla of Messrs. Watson and Company, and the examination was conducted in the presence of the Dewan of the Company. If the Deputy Magistrate had waited for two or three hours more at the place, he would have got the opportunity to examine hundreds of men who would have come to the *hât* in the afternoon, the *hât* being held in the afternoon of every Sunday. The Deputy Magistrate should have known that Babu Brajendra Nath is a native of Juniadaha, who was born and bred there, and had been hearing of oppression since his early boyhood.

The editor remarks that it is clear from Babu Brajendra Nath's letter that the enquiry was conducted in a most perfunctory manner; indeed, it seems that the Deputy Magistrate went to Juniadaha only because he could not well disobey the orders of his superior officers. If he had any desire to hold a thorough and impartial enquiry, he should have asked Babu Brajendra Nath to be present on the spot.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 9th, 1893.

42. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 9th April, has the following:—

According to the *Indian Daily News*, the Honourable Mr. Mackay's

The financial difficulty and fresh proposal to restrict the free coinage of silver has taxation. been accepted by the Herschell Committee. If this be true, it will also lead to the acceptance of Mr. Mackay's second proposal namely, that which relates to the adoption of a gold standard for the silver currency of India. This, again, will necessitate the ultimate adoption of a gold currency for India. But the restriction of the free coinage of silver will produce only a temporary appreciation of that metal and lead to its still greater depreciation in future. Thus the adoption of Mr. Mackay's proposal will increase the exchange difficulty rather than decrease it. The policy of waiting is therefore better than the adoption of this remedy. In the meantime, Government can meet its financial troubles both by the reduction of expenditure and the imposition of fresh taxes. As regards the former, migrations to the hill stations of Simla, Darjeeling, &c., may be stopped, and the holding in England of the Civil Service, the Medical and the Engineering examinations, and all railway work may be suspended for a time. As regards the latter, the salt duty may be slightly increased, the duty on European piece-goods may be reimposed, the duty on liquor and ganja may be increased tenfold, and a duty on the exportation of jute, &c., may be imposed without causing any inconvenience to the people.

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43. The same paper says that Nawab Amir Hossein has been appointed The Lieutenant-Governor and the to officiate as Inspector-General of Registration for Muhammadan community. Mr. Holmwood on leave, and Maulvi Abdul Jubber to officiate as Police Magistrate for Mr. Amir Hossein. The Muhammadan Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court was baulked of his promotion in consequence of Mr. Ormond's appointment, and so the Muhammadan community was greatly displeased with the Lieutenant-Governor. The above appointments will remove their displeasure and make them deeply attached to Government. Probably the Muhammadans will henceforward keep aloof from the protests that may be made by Hindus against the acts of Government. The Lieutenant-Governor is evidently a clever statesman. The writer is glad to mark the rejoicing of the Muhammadan community over the above appointment, and still more so to note the knowledge of statecraft (রাজনৈতি) shown by His Honour.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 12th, 1893.

44. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika*, of the 12th April, has the following Sir Charles Crosthwaite's speech on Sir Charles Crosthwaite's recent speech at Hurdwar. at Hurdwar:—

It is an universally accepted principle in politics that a Governor should not find fault with any act or measure of any of his predecessors. But he is not required by any political principle to praise any of their wrong acts. The 220 millions of Hindus in India are of opinion that Sir Auckland Colvin did a very wrong thing in breaking up the mela at Hurdwar, and it is only an English Governor that can be so foolhardy as to maintain the contrary. The opinion of 220 millions of Hindus is of no weight in the eye of an English officer, and Sir Charles Crosthwaite thinks that the dictum of such an officer must be accepted by them in a submissive spirit. He has therefore abused the respected pandas of Hurdwar in unmeasured terms. He has alarmed the pandas by his reproaches,

and the 220 millions of Hindus are seized with consternation and filled with astonishment at this insult offered to Brahmins.

Sir Charles thinks that the entire body of Hindu pilgrims will be frightened by his vilification of the pandas. Sir Charles is not wrong in his supposition. If pilgrimage had not been an imperative duty of the Hindus, no Hindu would have thought of going to Hurdwar after all the oppression that pilgrims have suffered there. If assisting the pilgrims in their devotions had not been likewise an imperative duty of the pandas, they would have by this time left Hurdwar in a body.

The English officer cannot realise that a man can be influenced by anything else than love of gain. In his opinion the pandas assist the pilgrims only for the sake of money. The English officers will never cease to think so, and so long as they think so the Hindus must hear Brahmins vilified by them.

The Hindus will be glad if satisfactory sanitary arrangements are made at Hurdwar, but they are convinced that Government could have prevented a cholera epidemic even without breaking up the mela. They are further convinced that a good deal of oppression was causelessly committed in breaking up the fair. This is the reason why the Hindus blamed the officials for committing oppression and Sir Auckland Colvin for lending his countenance to it.

The members of the Hurdwar Commission were all Sir Auckland's men. The impression that the enquiry made by the Commission was not an impartial one will never be removed from the minds of the Hindus. On the strength of the Commission's report Sir Auckland Colvin reviled the Hindus before, and Sir Charles Crosthwaite has reviled them now. This has alarmed and surprised them. If English pilgrims had had to suffer such oppression at any place of pilgrimage, Sir Charles Crosthwaite would not have probably dared to show such haughtiness. The writer will not speak here of the Mussulmans; he will only say that if the Hindus had been Englishmen, Governors like Sir Auckland Colvin and Sir Charles Crosthwaite would have been certainly obliged to act differently.

Sir Charles Crosthwaite would have done better not to have bragged of the unparalleled religious neutrality of the English Government. The English Government is doing what is clearly its duty to do, and it is one which cannot be safely left undone. Why then boast of this? Such boasting cannot be pleasing to the Indians. The English Government in India does not know how to please the people; nor does it seem solicitous to please them. But the Home authorities are always anxious to please them, and this is why they are so much disliked by the Government here.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

The Inland Emigration Act.

45. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 4th April, has the following:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
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The proposal to amend the cooly law naturally raised the expectation in the public mind that Government would take the opportunity to adopt measures for the protection of coolies. But this expectation of the public has not been fulfilled. Nay, the law has been amended in such a way, as to lead the public to think that the object of the amendment was simply to protect the interests of the tea planters. Much of the oppression which is now committed on the coolies would have been prevented, if provision had been made for their registration in the districts in which they are recruited. When coolies were registered in the town of Burdwan, many of them used to go back to their homes, on learning that they would have to serve in the tea gardens. Under the new law they will be registered at Dibrugar, where the knowledge that they are intended for the tea gardens will be of no use to them. They will, therefore, have no alternative, but to serve as slaves in the gardens. The members of the Viceregal Council must have heard of the oppression on the coolies, and, yet, the majority of them acted in such a way, as to favour the interests of the planters. What can be a matter of greater regret than this? The English have been earnestly trying to put down slavery in every part of the world, and yet slavery, in an indirect form, is being practised by them in India. And this is certainly not to their credit.

SUDHAKAR,
April 7th, 1893.

46. Referring to the constitution of the reformed Bengal Council, the *Sudhakar*, of the 7th April, says that it is not probable that any Hindu or Mussulman will be chosen as an official member. Of the seven non-official members to be elected by the several public bodies, it is idle to expect that one or more will be Muhammadans, for the time has not yet come when a Muhammadan can stand side by side with a Hindu in an electioneering contest. The Muhammadan community will therefore have to depend on the favour of Government and of the Hindus for representation in the Council. The only chance of a Muhammadan getting a seat in the Council lies in the fact that the Lieutenant-Governor has reserved to himself the right of appointing three non-official members, and one of these may be a Muhammadan. But if His Honour chooses a blind supporter of Government as the representative of the Muhammadan community, that community would rather have an independent Hindu, than such a Muhammadan, as their member.

The Lieutenant-Governor should also see that the interests of the zamindar and the raiyat are represented in the Council. It is absolutely necessary that the raiyats should have a representative in the Council.

SANJIVANI,
April 8th, 1893.

47. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th April, says that the members to be elected to the Bengal Council by the Calcutta University, Bengal Council, the Calcutta Municipality, and the groups of Mufassal Municipalities and District Boards ought to be industrious and hard-working men, possessed of high intellectual attainments. No one should be elected as a member, who does not possess independence of spirit, and is not able to make good speeches in English.

Rai Raj Kumar Sarbhadikari, editor of the *Hindoo Patriot*, is going from house to house, canvassing for votes for the University membership. He has, however, no independence, and can scarcely put three English words together. And it is idle to hope that a man, who considers it the highest aim of his life to be permitted to sing the praises of Sir Charles Elliott and Mr. Risley, will venture to incur the displeasure of high officials of Government by defending the rights of his country. He ought not, therefore, on any account to be returned as the member for such an august body as the Calcutta University. Mr. A. M. Bose is a man of high mental calibre and attainments, and can work hard. He is also reputed for his independence and power of making able and well reasoned speeches. To compare the Rai Bahadur with this gentleman would be about as appropriate as it would be to compare the glow worm with the sun.

Babu Surendra Nath Banerji and Kali Nath Mitter are candidates for election by the Calcutta Municipality, but considering how hard Babu Surendra Nath has laboured to promote the political advancement of his country, and especially to secure the introduction of the elective principle in the constitution of its Legislative Councils, he has unquestionably the first claim to the membership for which he has offered himself a candidate.

Babu Baikuntha Nath Sen, of Berhampore, ought to be returned as the municipal member for the Presidency Division, and Mr. A. Chaudhuri, Barrister, who is a native of Pabna, ought to be the member for the municipalities in the Rajshahi Division. The District Boards in the Chittagong Division should return Babu Mohini Mohan Bardhan, pleader of Comilla; and the District Boards in the Patna Division should return the able pleader, Babu Guru Prasad Sen.

If the above gentlemen are returned as members, there will be very little chance of the Mufassal Municipal Bill being passed into law with its present objectionable sections.

As for the three non-official members to be chosen by the Lieutenant-Governor, the writer would suggest that His Honour should make some compensation to Raja Suryyakanta of Mymensingh for the injustice lately done to him, by taking him into the Bengal Council as the representative of the zamindar community. The Raja is by no means a worthless man, or devoid of manly qualities.

A member should be chosen from among the Muhammadan community. Maulvi Abdul Jubbar, who is highly respected by that community is the fittest man for this office.

The Bengal Council contains a representative of the European merchants but the native mercantile community are not represented on that Council. It is proper that the Lieutenant-Governor should do justice to native merchants, by appointing Babu Sitanath Rai as their representative in the Bengal Council.

48. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 10th April, cannot approve Representation of Mufassal Municipalities and District Boards of the interpretation which is being put upon the rules for the election of members to the Bengal Council, namely that the Mufassal Municipalities and the

District Boards may return as their representatives men who are neither Municipal Commissioners nor District Board members, but are only residents of the divisions in which the municipalities and the District Boards are respectively situated. To put such an interpretation upon the rules is tantamount to an assumption by the local bodies of the privilege of representation by paid counsel. It is a wonder that patriotic gentlemen, who can do so much for their country, cannot take the trouble to stay in Calcutta for three months of the year, in the discharge of a public duty. Have not members of Parliament who come from the interior, to give up all private business when Parliament is in session ?

49. The *Sulabh Dainik*, of the 11th April, says that it would be glad to see Raja Sasisekhar, of Tahirpur, appointed as the zamindars' representative in the Bengal Council.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

50. The *Bangavási*, of the 8th April, says that, owing to want of sufficient rainfall during the last rainy season, and excessive rainfall during the latter part of last winter, there has been a considerable failure of the *aman*, the *aus*, the jute and the *rabi* crops in villages within the jurisdiction of the Balagur thana, in the Hooghly district. Rice is selling very dear in these villages, and many people are unable to purchase it for want of money.

51. The *Dainik-o-Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 9th April, says that, though it is now only the latter part of the month of Chaitra, people in the villages are suffering terribly from water scarcity. It is not easy to see how they will fare in the month of Baisakha. Government and the zamindars and talukdars ought not to remain indifferent any longer. Let those who possess the means undertake the excavation of tanks, and by that means find work for the poor, and remove the crying need of the country. Government is in the habit of granting *takavi* loans to agriculturists. In Bengal the loans should be granted for the excavation of tanks, which are of greater use there than wells. The Hon'ble Mr. Chentsal Rao's proposal, that the condition requiring the repayment of these *takavi* loans within a certain number of years should be done away with, commends itself to the writer. These loans should be granted also to non-agriculturists, for the purpose of excavating tanks for the supply of drinking water. Provision should also be made for the prompt disposal of applications for such loans, and the rules relating to the grant of the same should be extensively circulated.

52. The *Sahachar*, of the 5th April, has the following:—
Rains having failed last year, a severe water-scarcity was felt in a good many places. This year the scarcity is likely to be severer still, for the expectation that the winter rains would supply the wants of the country in this respect has not been realized. Government and the public should therefore adopt remedial measures beforehand. The former can, however, do very little in the matter, beyond requesting zamindars not to take exorbitant prices for lands that may be taken up for the excavation of tanks and bringing pressure on municipalities and District Boards, with the object of making them undertake measures for the removal of the water scarcity. It is the public who should mainly exert themselves in the matter. Maharaja Man Singh caused a large number of tanks to be excavated in the country. The tanks still exist, and are the property of the public. So far as the writer knows, their ownership was not made over to the zamindars at the time of the Permanent Settlement. Government is requested to prepare a list of these tanks. The zamindars who have come to take possession of them

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 10th, 1893.

SULABH DAINIK,
April 11th, 1893.

BANGAVASI,
April 8th, 1893.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR,
CHANDRIKA,
April 9th, 1893.

SAHACHAR,
April 5th, 1893.

will, it is hoped, return the same for the use of the public. This object can be secured by united action on the part of the villagers.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SAHACHAR,
April 5th, 1893.

53. The same paper makes the following remarks in the course of an article headed "Manchester again wants to show mercy (to the people of India)."

With the object of securing the votes of Manchester, both the ruling parties in England compelled the Government of India to abolish the import duty on English piece-goods. This abolition did not, however, produce the expected result, viz. the ruin of the Indian cloth mills. So, the merchants of Manchester again put pressure on the Secretary of State, and the result was the passing of the Indian Factories Act. Not satisfied with this attempt to ruin the cloth mills of India, these pseudo-philanthropists now want to ruin her growing mining industry. The conditions of underground labour in India are entirely different from those obtaining in English mines. The Indian mines are not so deep as the English mines, and the women who work there have not to remain long underground. These latter are always accompanied by their husbands and other male relations, and so no special measures are needed to protect their morality. As a consequence, neither the proprietors of these mines nor the labourers employed there have sought the aid of Government. But, then, the mechanics of Manchester have taken pity on these underground labourers of India, and are bringing pressure on the Secretary of State to adopt measures for their protection. The true meaning of this philanthropy is to increase the cost of mining labour in India, with the object of driving the products of these mines from the market. The Government of India has, of course, taken the side of the Indians in this matter. It should plainly tell the Secretary of State that these attempts to ruin Indian industries under the garb of philanthropy would make the people of India lose their respect for English civilization, and, as a consequence, English prestige, in the true sense of the word, would suffer. Imposture is always an object of hatred, and that in the name of mortality and religion is still more so.

SANJIVANI,
April 8th, 1893.

54. Referring to the speech lately made by Mr. Balfour, against the Home Rule Bill, the *Sanjivani*, of the 8th April, Loyalty in an Englishman and says that even such a speech does not lay an in an Indian. Englishman open to the charge of disloyalty, but a protest against the action of a Police Superintendent in India is enough to constitute disloyalty in an Indian. Such is the difference between the loyalty of an independent and of a dependent country.

SANJIVANI.

55. The *Sanjivani*, of the 8th April, has an article headed, "Terrible news about an English Magistrate—his son, a cooly-arkati—his house, a cooly dépôt," in which it quotes from the *Bankura Durpan* a case, in which Mr.

Taylor, the retired Magistrate of Bankura, and now a resident of that place, was sued by two men for not fulfilling a contract, by which, in return for a sum of Rs. 300 which he took in advance, he promised to supply coolies to the plaintiffs. Mr. Taylor, being then a Magistrate, made his son, Mr. Gordon Taylor, execute a note-of-hand for the Rs. 300 advanced. In the course of this case it transpired that Mr. Gordon Taylor was a cooly-arkati, and used his father's stables as a cooly dépôt. Babu Umesh Chandra Dutt, the late foudari peshkar of Bankura, used to act as his manager; and as soon as a sufficient number of coolies were recruited, the Magistrate's *chaprasi* used to get leave from his master, which was willingly given, to escort the coolies to Raniganj.

The case has revealed some horrible mysteries of the cooly-trade. In British territory kidnapping is going on openly—ladies of respectable families are being sent to the tea gardens as coolies!—many families are being deprived of all their members!—the wife is being torn from the arms of her husband, the husband from the arms of his wife!—the son, the only prop of his old father's life, is being torn away from him, and put under the chain of slavery manufactured by tea planters—in fact, whole families and villages are being converted into deserts by the present system of cooly-recruitment, and yet the evil is not

being remedied. No one even thought that such oppression could be possible in British territory. What was long suspected, has now been proved to be a fact. The whole mystery of cooly-recruitment will not be unravelled until a list is published, showing how many Magistrates like Mr. Taylor are implicated in the business. It is a well-known fact that many European officials have shares in tea gardens, and now it appears from Mr. Taylor's case that their sons and relatives actually carry on the business of cooly-recruitment. How can the kidnapping of respectable women be expected to be stopped after this?

Legislation in English interests. 11th April, has the following :—

The sovereign power in England resides in the British Parliament, and, thanks to the elective system, every Englishman, from the millionaire down to the ordinary day-labourer, shares that power to some extent. India is a dependency of England, and every Englishman, high or low, is, therefore, a sovereign of India, and the demands of these Englishmen, however unreasonable they may be, have to be granted by the Secretary of State for India, who is subject to the British Parliament. Thus the English Government in India, has been forced by the selfish Lancashire millowners to pass the Factory Law, and a proposal is now made by the owners of Newcastle coal mines to pass a Mines Act for this country.

Many foolish people look upon the withdrawal of the jury notification as a concession to native opinion. But this is a mistake. Nothing would have probably come of the agitation against the jury order, if that agitation had been confined only to the Indians. It is because the Anglo-Indians, who, too, share the sovereign power, joined the agitation, that the jury notification has been withdrawn.

The Government of India is always anxious to offer facilities to these Anglo-Indians in the prosecution of the industries in which they are engaged. Many of them are tea planters, and for their benefit Government has passed the Emigration Act, in disregard of the Indian protest against that measure and the sufferings of the poor coolies. But the case is different in England, where the Home Government has to attend to the grievances of the English labourer.

Fires frequently break out in Calcutta in the jute godowns of the Anglo-Indian merchants, and the Calcutta Fire-brigade is maintained for the purpose of putting out these fires. It was urged by these merchants that as fires occasionally break out in the bustees too, a portion of the expenses for the maintenance of the fire-brigade should be paid by the general body of the rate-payers of Calcutta. And Government has accepted the proposal, and passed the Fire-brigade Act. These Anglo-Indian merchants are descendants of Englishmen in England, and, as such, are descendants of sovereigns. It is the imperative duty of the Hindus and Mussulmans of India to grant every demand of the dominant race, be it reasonable or unreasonable.

URIYA PAPERS.

57. The *Samvad Váhika*, of the 9th March, reports an outbreak of cholera in the Balasore district. in the Balasore district, and attributes it to the unusually large number of marriages that have recently taken place there.

SAMVADVAHika,
Mar. 9th, 1893.

58. The *Utkal Dípiká*, of the 11th March, is sorry to notice that the Keonjhur difficulty has begun anew, and that some of the rebels, who had disappeared in the fastness of jungles, have begun to collect supporters, and make further depredations on the loyal subjects of the Maharaja. The paper advises the Maharaja to promptly arrest the ringleaders.

UTKAL DIPÍKA,
Mar. 11th, 1893.

59. The same paper regrets to learn that the Secretary of State for India has ruled that, henceforward, no accused person on whom a capital sentence is passed will be entitled to apply to the Queen-Empress in Council for the exercise of the prerogative of mercy.

UTKAL DIPÍKA.

60. The same paper, of the 18th March, does not approve of the appointment of a Bengali gentleman, ignorant of the Uriya language, to the post of Deputy Inspector of Schools, Balasore, and trusts that the mistake will be found out by the Education Department, and promptly rectified.

UTKAL DIPÍKA.

NÁRÁYAN CHANDRA BHATTÁCHÁRYYA,

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